

Serial No. 09/595,622
Atty. Docket No. 70655.8100

REMARKS

Applicant replies to the Office Action dated December 8, 2005, within the shortened three month statutory period for reply. Claims 1-8, 11, 19-20, 22-23, 27-28 and 36 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejects claims 1-8, 11, 19-20, 22-23, 27-28 and 36. Applicant asserts that the application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the pending claims is requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejects claims 1-8, 11, 19-20, 22-23, 27-28 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Markus et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,490,601 ("Markus") in view of Mohan et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0140312 A1 ("Mohan"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Markus discloses a server for automatically filling in form fields of an electronic document by a user creating a profile. The profile contains information that would be commonly used to fill out an online form such as, for example, first and last name, address, telephone number, email address, credit card number, etc. When the user subsequently accesses an online form that has been previously mapped by a privacy bank, a profile bundle is created and transmitted to the user's browser application, wherein data elements from the bundle are inserted into the various form fields as indicated by the map.

The Examiner correctly notes that Marcus does not disclose, "obtaining user entered data from the electronic form, wherein the user entered data is at least one of absent from the user profile and different from the user data in a corresponding field" and "updating the user profile with the user entered data" (page 5, paragraph 2). However, the Examiner asserts that these steps are disclosed by Mohan. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Mohan generally discloses a form fill utility that enables end users to quickly complete online forms with little or no keystrokes. Specifically, Mohan discloses a user profile that is maintained by the user through an interface to the form fill host. Mohan further discloses a transaction database that stores forms that have been previously filled out by the user. Data residing in the transaction database is generally used to fill in subsequent matching forms; however, Mohan discloses that, in one embodiment, the user can select whether to fill out a form using data from the user profile, the transaction database or both.

In the "Response to Arguments", the Examiner stated that Applicant's arguments filed on October 21, 2005 were not persuasive. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that, according to Mohan, AXP No. 200401852

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"updating the transaction database leads to the change in the user profile" (page 15, paragraph 2). The Examiner has relied on paragraphs 92, 95, and 96 of Mohan to support this assertion.

In paragraph 92, Mohan begins to disclose the process used to ensure that data from the user profile is updated in the transaction database. After testing whether any data in the user profile has been changed, Mohan discloses that "[i]f a user profile change of a relevant field is dated after the transaction record date, the process continues to block 1045, otherwise, the process continues directly to block 1050." In other words, a test is being performed to determine whether a change to the user profile occurred after a change to corresponding record(s) in the transaction database. If such a change has occurred, then the process proceeds to block 1045.

At block 1045, Mohan discloses that "the changed information is filled in from the user profile" (paragraph 93). Thus, Mohan discloses that if data was changed in the user profile that pre-dates any changes to the transaction database, then the changed information from the user profile is used to update the transaction database. Mohan does not disclose, nor infer, a test to determine whether changes to the transactional database pre-date changes to the user profile. Even more significant is that Mohan is silent as to updating the user profile based on changed data from the transaction database.

In paragraph 95, Mohan discloses actions that may be taken by a user after a form has been filled with data from the transaction database as described in reference to block 1050. After a form has been filled, the user can edit, add, or delete data from the form. If form data is modified by the user, then the process proceeds to block 1055 which is explained in paragraph 96.

Mohan, in paragraph 96, discloses how modified form data is processed when it is submitted to the destination server. According to Mohan at paragraph 96, "the IIM stores the information submitted to the server in the user's transaction database." The Examiner asserts that, "[t]his shows that the user profile and the transaction database have some common data such that when data in the transaction database is updated with the entered data, the data in the user profile is also changed, which means it is updated. In other words, updating the user profile with the user entered data is performed as claimed via updating data in the transaction database" (page 15, paragraph 2).

As demonstrated by the analysis of the recited paragraphs of Mohan, there is no disclosure of the Examiner's assertion that a user profile is updated via the transaction database. In fact, such an update would render Mohan at least partially inoperable. One of the reasons Mohan discloses a transaction database is to enable a user to add, delete, and edit data in a form. The transaction database stores a form identity as well as the data used to fill the form. Therefore, if a user chooses

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to remove their social security number from a form after the form has been filled, the changed form data will be saved to the transaction database, minus the social security number. When the same user subsequently fills out the same form, the form will not be filled with the social security number, as per the user's preference. However, if the changed data from the transaction database was used to update the user profile, then the social security number would be removed from the user profile. Moreover, because Mohan discloses that the user profile is used to update records in the transaction database, any other form data containing a social security number would be modified such that the social security number would be removed. This would not be desirable in that the user may prefer to have select forms filled with a social security number.

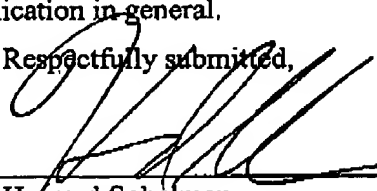
Updating the transaction file based on changes to data in the user profile would have a cumulative negative effect on the data in both databases. As such, Mohan does not disclose or suggest at least, "obtaining user entered data from the electronic form, wherein the user entered data is at least one of absent from the user profile and different from the user data in a corresponding field; and, updating the user profile with the user entered data," as similarly recited by independent claims 1 and 36.

Dependent claims 2-8, 11, 19-20, 22-23 and 27-28 include all the limitations of independent claim 1, so dependent claims 2-8, 11, 19-20, 22-23 and 27-28 are patentable for at least the same reasons set forth above, as well as in view of their own respective features.

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is thus requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2814. Applicant invites the Examiner to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner has any questions regarding this Reply or the present application in general.

Respectfully submitted,

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